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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7134

BILL NUMBER: SB 408

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 1, 2011

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Education concerning child abuse.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Rogers

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the Department of Education (DOE), in collaboration with organizations that have expertise in child sexual abuse, to identify or develop model child sexual abuse education materials, response policies, and reporting policies.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The education materials and procedures referred to above have to be made available to schools no later than July 1, 2012. The education materials may include topics such as warning signs of sexual abuse, basic principles of sexual abuse prevention, and a plan of action for educating students, staff, and members of the community. The procedures on how to respond to incidents of sexual abuse may include defining how a victim of sexual abuse may seek assistance, how staff personnel may intervene when they suspect or recognize that a student is a victim of sexual abuse, identifying the counseling options and the educational support available to assist a victim of child sexual abuse, and outlining how to report such incidents.

Education materials would probably be obtained from local and national organizations. However, the Department would have to organize and distribute the materials to schools. The DOE would have to carry out these provisions within its existing level of resources.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Under the guidance of DOE, schools would have to implement child sexual abuse education programs and response and reporting procedures in pre-kindergarten through grade 5. School health education curriculums may have to be modified to include instruction on sexual abuse, but

this can be carried out within the existing level of school resources.

The immediate impact would be the cost of training materials for students and staff. Training for staff could be accomplished during teacher in-service days.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education

Local Agencies Affected: Schools

Information Sources: Department of Veteran Affairs website: <http://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/>;
American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry website: <http://www.aacap.org/>;

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